



Baldwin Wallace University  
Institute for Learning in Retirement – East  
2025 Spring Quarter Schedule

Baldwin Wallace University

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The Spring Term begins on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, and run for six weeks, ending on Thursday, May 15. There will also be some single-session talks offered during this period. **UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, CLASSES WILL BE GIVEN AT TEMPLE EMANU EL, LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF BRAINARD AND EMERY ROADS.** Please note that registration is by postal mail only and due by April 3. To receive registration material if you are not currently on the mailing list, fill out an information request form or call 440-826-2400.

**TUESDAYS, BEGINNING APRIL 8, 2025**

**ART IN FOCUS Chapter 18**

**9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

We'll be back together for more adventures with painting and sculpture. And as usual, we'll try to take a look at things in a slightly different way. I don't know where we'll go this time -- we'll try to cover some of the stuff that is of interest to the group AND keep an eye out for "Art in the News" (because it always is). If you've been to any (or all) of the first 17 excursions, come on back. If you haven't -- why not sign up? Chances are that you'll keep coming back for more.

**ZOOM CLASSES ONLY**

**Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.**

**The Year 1666**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

The year 1666 turns out to have been a remarkably seminal year for a number of occurrences and initiatives that helped shape the modern world. To unpack the events surrounding that year, we will look at six revolutionary events. These occurred in religion (restructuring of Eastern churches, first modern Catholic Bible translation, conversion to Islam of a major Jewish messianic claimant), to historical events (Great Fire in London, defeat of Dutch in the new world by British) and to science (the start of Isaac Newton's revolutionary work).

**Presenter: Peter Haas, Ph.D.**

**Everything You Need to Know about Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

Topics will include how facilities are inspected, reimbursed, and staffed. How to pay for care and the best ways to select a facility will also be covered.

**Presenter: Gary Klein, M.S., M.A.**

**A Storm Rising in The West**

**12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

A journey into the frontiers of colonial America, where we travel through western Pennsylvania, western Virginia, Ohio and Michigan. In this course art meets history when we use the paintings of Robert Griffing and John Buxton to introduce the Native American tribes of this region and exam the causes and ramifications of the French and Indian War. The objective of this course is to introduce to the student a part of our American history previous to the Revolutionary War that is seldom taught and little understood. This course covers the time period 1600-1762.

**Presenter: Terry Greathouse, Ph.D.**

**Islam and the Environment**

**12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

This course is an overview of how Islam understands the natural world and Islamic approaches to environmental issues. We will begin by explaining humanity's role as stewards of creation and explore human beings' place in the natural world. We will also examine the beauty and spirituality of nature as laid out in the Islamic sources the Qur'an and the Hadith (i.e., the sayings and actions of the Prophet) and how Islamic law aims to protect the environment.

**Presenter: Zeki Saritoprak, Ph.D.**

**Fun with Language**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

Language—perhaps the most fascinating and astounding achievement of human societies. How did our world's languages originate? Where did they come from, and how did they become what they are today? How are these languages similar, and what makes each one distinct from the others? How does the language you are reading right now fit into all of the preceding? What are its distinct characteristics. For example, what is it about English that allows Kermit the Frog to take a sentence like "Time flies when you're having fun" and change it to "Time's fun when you're having flies?" Let's find out. Join me as we play around with this amazing achievement. In this process we can have a bit of fun and learn more about how truly unique and astounding the human brain is.

**Presenter: Marge Geiger, Ph.D.**

**The Qur'an: Text and Context**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

This course serves as an introduction to the Qur'an, the Holy book of Islam. For Muslims, the Qur'an is the word of God verbatim. Students in the course will be introduced to the text of the Qur'an, in English translation, as well as commentaries on the Qur'an, providing a window into both the scripture itself and Muslim interpretations of the scripture (from the early days of Islam to the present). The course will approach the Qur'an as a living document, as a text that is continually re-visited and re-interpreted by Muslims, and used in various contexts. This course will explore theological and legal dimensions of the Qur'an, including the four major themes of the: Qur'an God and God's beautiful names, prophethood, justice, and the afterlife.

**Presenter: Zeki Saritoprak, Ph.D.**

## WEDNESDAYS, BEGINNING APRIL 9, 2025

### **Facts, Fears, and Fundamentals**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**Presenter: Dee Christie, Ph.D.**

The presenter, a practicing ethicist, will consider contemporary moral matters in areas such as medicine, politics, and culture: how to decide, who decides, what influences people's perceptions and values. Tools will be offered to address these complex issues.

### **Revenge or Justice?**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**Presenter: Janet Coccaro, Ph.D.**

In 1844, a Parisian weekly periodical began the serialized publication of The Count of Monte Cristo. It was an immediate success as readers eagerly followed the adventures of young Edmond Dantes. The plot twists and numerous themes are interwoven to create a web of betrayal and revenge as Dantes navigates conspiracies, corruption, greed and romance. As we read the novel, we will analyze and discuss the narrative techniques, characters, and multiple themes of this timeless account of deceit, injustice, and redemption that still resonates with readers today.

Text: The Count of Monte Cristo, unabridged, by Alexandre Dumas

### **The Second American Revolution (?) (!!)**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**ZOOM CLASSES ONLY**

**Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.**

*"Something's happening here, what it is aint exactly clear."*

Well, they warned us, and either people thought they were kidding, or they actually want a different form of government than what we've had since the 1790s. Whichever it was, the future is upon us, and the least we should be doing is to see what is actually happening. What is clear is that the new administration has no plans to govern like anyone has governed before in this country. Come, and we'll try to make sense of it.

### **The Senior Transportation Connection**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. April 9**

**FREE**

**SINGLE SESSION**

**Presenter: Laura Kleinman, CEO**

In 2005, Cuyahoga County started a shared service to provide coordinated, comprehensive, and accessible transportation for older adults and those with disabilities. Local activists and public officials believed that a coordinated effort would provide a more efficient and effective system for the individual municipal providers and their constituents. By 2019, STC had 80 employees and a fleet of 60 vehicles. That year, it provided over 100,000 trips for over 3500 individuals. As the last of the baby boomers hit their 60's, the demand for accessible transportation is expected to increase. Come learn about what the organization is doing and how it's improving the overall well-being of its riders and their families well into the future.

### **Developing Issues in the World of Higher Education**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. April 23**

**SINGLE SESSION**

**Presenter: Lou Raffis**

We will discuss several major demographic issues that are confronting college administrators, and, the very health and well-being of America's system of higher education. Foremost among these are the sharp decline in the number of college-what effects we have already seen and also what is still to come. We will close with a brief review of the very popular U.S. News College Ranking, and discuss some cheating scandals carried out by College Administrators. We ask the question, "Is there not a better way to determine how to pick a quality school for our children?"

### **Do we Have Free Will?**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. April 30**

**SINGLE SESSION**

**Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.**

We all think we have free will. We exercise it from moment to moment, deciding what we are going to do or think about next. Our legal system depends on it. Religious doctrines invoke it. Philosophers argue about it. Scientists try to figure out if it is compatible with the laws of nature. After this discussion, you'll be better able to decide for yourself.

### **Internet Humor 2**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. May 7**

**SINGLE SESSION**

**Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.**

More smiles, chuckles, and laughs are coming your way, with a new batch of jokes and cartoons, as well as funny pictures, quotes, songs, and videos from the internet. Laughter is the best medicine for relieving, at least temporarily, our worries about an uncertain future for our country and the world.

### **Trash to Treasure, Garbage to Green Space**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. May 14**

**SINGLE SESSION**

**Presenter: Terry Greathouse, Ph.D.**

This story explains how a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens changed a garbage dump into green space and brought about the creation of the Cleveland Metropark's West Creek Reservation in Parma, Ohio.

### **20<sup>th</sup> Century Physics**

**12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

**Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.**

This course examines the two mind-boggling revolutionary theories, relativity and quantum mechanics, that sprang out of the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century,. They superseded almost all previous fundamental scientific ideas (now known as "classical physics"). You won't need a background in science to appreciate these amazing new ways of viewing our universe.

## WEDNESDAYS BEGINNING APRIL 9 (continued)

### **Henrietta Laks**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

**Presenter: Barbara Greenberg, Ph.D.**

We will focus our class on the book "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Laks", her personal story, the outcome on her surviving family members, and the public health issues surrounding the immortality of her cells in medical research and issues of informed consent for patients today.

## THURSDAYS, BEGINNING APRIL 10, 2025

### **General History of Cleveland**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**Presenter: Doug Imhoff**

This presentation will discuss the "General History" of Cleveland which will include its business, political, entertainment, organized crime, and sports history. We will also discuss the history of its many attractions and landmarks that makes Cleveland a great place to live! You will go down "memory lane" and we will include many great pictures of Cleveland throughout its history too!

### **What's the Right Thing to Do?**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**Presenter: Sam Barnett, Ph.D.**

We probably all want to do the right thing. But what makes something the right thing to do? Each week we will explore some ethical issue or idea through sharing your views and why you hold them. Our discussions will include *your* solutions to some real-life situations, a quick review of some major theories about what makes an act moral, the relationship between morality and a "just society", whether there is such a thing as "moral luck", and finally, how we actually make moral evaluations. So come prepared to participate and to disagree agreeably.

### **Queen Victoria and the Victorian Era**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**Presenter: Teresa Marano, Ph.D.**

Queen Victoria was the second longest reigning monarch in the history of the United Kingdom and her reign encompassed much of the nineteenth century. Yet Victoria was not in direct line to the throne, so what events placed her on that throne? The "Victorian Era" is associated with Britain's great age of social change, industrial expansion, economic progress, scientific and technological advancement, and empire growth. This course will examine her life with Prince Albert, her husband, and their family, and how Queen Victoria redefined the British monarchy.

### **The Panama Canal**

**11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

**Presenter: Steven Schecter, M.A.**

Since the Panama Canal has been in the news lately, maybe we need to go back in time and see what this small Isthmus is all about. Building canals to shorten routes goes back centuries. In this program we will begin with the first canal in the US and how it influenced the desire for a canal in Panama. The French attempted the first serious plan to build a canal during the 1880's. After ten years and over 20,000 deaths, they gave up. During the early 20th century, the US took over the effort. To succeed they would have to figure out how to combat the malaria and yellow fever that killed the French workers. The building of the Panama Canal was the greatest engineering feat of its day. This is the story.

### **Musical Films: Where the Film Started and Where It Ended**

**12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Presenter: Bill Rafalski**

In this course we will view film musicals that started one way and finished differently. The first film is "Annie Get Your Gun", . Number 2 is the film version of "Showboat", the granddaddy of all musicals. Third is a movie about two sailors on leave in New York, "On the Town" with Gene Kelly and Frank Sinatra. Next is the final film that Judy Garland made for MGM, "Summer Stock". Fifth is "Funny Girl" with Barbra Streisand and Omar Sharif. The last is "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" with Zero Mostel, Michael Crawford, and Michael Hordern. If you enjoy musicals, you will have a good time with this course.